



# WILDERNESS RANGER INTERNSHIP

## STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS, CALIFORNIA

***"IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND THE NATURAL WORLD. THE POINT IS TO DEFEND AND PRESERVE IT." –EDWARD ABBEY***

Are you interested in a career in natural resource management? Do you love to hike, work hard outside, and enjoy the beauty and challenge of the mountains? The Stanislaus National Forest is seeking wilderness ranger interns to protect and preserve three spectacular Wilderness areas in the Sierra Nevada range of California. Come spend the summer working in the Emigrant, Carson-Iceberg, and Mokelumne Wilderness Areas and have the ***summer experience of a lifetime!***



*Emigrant Wilderness in the Stanislaus National Forest*

### **The Place**

The Stanislaus National Forest is located in the central Sierra Nevada Mountains of California. The Sierra, Jon Muir's "Range of Light," stretches for over 400 miles across the state and is internationally renowned for its granite peaks, glacial basins, high alpine lakes, mild weather, and amazing beauty. The Stanislaus includes 213,000 acres of federally designated wilderness. The Emigrant Wilderness covers 112,000 acres of high meadows, granite domes, hundreds of lakes, and conifer forest. The Emigrant is bordered on the south by the most remote portion of Yosemite National Park. The Stanislaus NF also includes about half of the 160,000 acre Carson-Iceberg Wilderness, a less-visited area of high meadows, volcanic peaks, and open forests. Finally, the Stanislaus contains part of the Mokelumne Wilderness, including the wild and remote North Fork Mokelumne River canyon.

### **The Job**

The wilderness ranger intern will be an integral member of the Stanislaus National Forest Wilderness Crew. The intern will be expected to take on most of the duties of a full-time wilderness ranger. The ranger will work with the Wilderness Manager, other forest staff, volunteers, and may work alone at times.



### **The wilderness ranger intern:**

- ✓ May backpack for up to 8 days with a backpack of 50 pounds or more, including tools associated with wilderness ranger duties.
- ✓ Implements the logistics required for completion of wilderness projects including on-site coordination of volunteers.
- ✓ Performs trail maintenance activities.
- ✓ Performs maintenance at dispersed recreation sites including site cleanup and naturalizing.
- ✓ Interacts with public in wilderness, providing education and information. Checks wilderness permits. Informs wilderness visitors of rules and regulations.
- ✓ Inspects Outfitter/Guide camps for compliance with operating permits.
- ✓ Participates in wilderness stewardship projects such as invasive plant removal, range monitoring, and Yosemite toad habitat restoration.
- ✓ Patrols wilderness to ensure that areas are operated, used, and maintained in accordance with wilderness management plans and regulations.
- ✓ Uses education as the primary method of disseminating wilderness rules and regulations to the public.
- ✓ Organizes and establishes low impact base camps.
- ✓ Performs inventorying and monitoring of specific resources.
- ✓ Inventories and restores campsites in wilderness areas.
- ✓ Maintains signs in wilderness areas.
- ✓ Collects evidence and provides documentation for cases of misuse of wilderness areas.
- ✓ Manages collected data in digital format, including the input of data into databases and editing of digital photographs.
- ✓ May be involved in wildland fire management or search and rescue activities

### **Internship Requirements**

- ✓ The wilderness ranger intern must be able to backpack for multiple tours of duty, with each tour having the potential to last up to 8 days.
- ✓ The ranger should expect to carry a 50+ pound backpack and tools associated with duties (e.g. shovel, saw, etc.).
- ✓ The ranger must be experienced in backpacking and wilderness travel with a demonstrated ability to work independently in remote locations.
- ✓ The wilderness ranger intern must be familiar with the Wilderness Act, wilderness ethics, and Leave No Trace principles.
- ✓ The wilderness ranger intern must have good communication skills, as interaction with wilderness visitors will be a primary responsibility.
- ✓ The wilderness ranger intern should be familiar with basic computer applications. Additional computer experience with ArcGIS, Microsoft Access, and photo editing software is desirable but not required.



### **Internship Dates**

The internship lasts for a minimum of 12 weeks with the potential for up to 16 weeks of work depending on the start date, the applicant's schedule, and funding. Start and end dates are flexible, with the ideal period being mid-June to late September.

### **Compensation**

The intern will receive per diem at \$39 per day for days worked. Interns should expect to work at least 9 days every two weeks, and therefore earn at least \$351 every two weeks. Interns will be reimbursed for travel to and from Pinecrest at the beginning and end of the internship, up to \$400 total.

### **Housing**

Separate bunkhouses are available for men and women near the Summit Ranger Station in Pinecrest, CA. Bunkhouses include shared sleeping quarters, kitchen, bathroom, dining, and laundry facilities. The bunkhouses are near the forest wilderness office and several of the primary trailheads for the Emigrant Wilderness.

### **Transportation**

A personal vehicle is strongly recommended but not required. A vehicle will be available for use while working. For interns who do not have a personal vehicle available, transportation can be arranged through the Forest Service for pick-up from the San Francisco area at the beginning of the internship and drop-off at the end of the internship.

### **Equipment**

Interns will be provided with personal protective equipment, hand tools, radios, and standard group backpacking gear such as tents, stoves and water filters. Other items are in limited supply. Interns must have their own daypack, and sturdy hiking boots.

### **Questions**

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Resumes should include backpacking experience, outdoor skills, and two references.

For general information on the Stanislaus National Forest, please visit our website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/stanislaus/>

For more information on the Emigrant, Carson-Iceberg and Mokelumne Wilderness Areas, please visit <http://www.sierranevadawild.gov> or <http://www.wilderness.net>.